

Re: [Virtual Indian] 441...another reborn

In a message dated 1/2/2008 7:50:35 A.M. Pacific Standard Time, xxxxxx@... writes:

Howdy xxBob,

....um, yessir and you've got me totally intrigued about how you knew.

Ok, lets try this again. I was a 15 year old kid (I'm 51 now) who was totally into motorcycles. I ran the stink out of everything I could swing a leg over. I happened into Leo's Cycle Sales and met the proprietor's son Bill. One thing led to another and next thing you know I'm working there after school and weekends as a "gofer". They race prepped a few Kawasaki's that I ran in motocross, indoor short track, etc. Life was good.

Back in the rear of the shop in an unused work bay, sat an old musty relic of a motorcycle. Huge motor, huge tires, huge seat, gigantic skirted fenders, something about that old bike always drew me to it. It looked to my 15 year old eyes like a hulking dinosaur, and seemed to speak about a motorcycling time long past. Needless to say, it got under my skin. All these amazingly quick Kawasaki's all over the shop, and my eyes always got drawn back to her. I used to sneak back to the rear of the shop and eat my lunch sitting on her. I was smitten.

My fascination with Indians started then and there. I always said one day I'm going to own one of those Indians. Of course 15 year old kids want something that will burn rubber for a city block on one wheel, so the dream seemed far off.

Fast forward to my 25 year class reunion, and while I was in Memphis I stopped by Leo's to say hi. I asked about the 441, did he still have it. Nope, he'd just sold it to a local fellow. I was sick. I had enough money at that point to finally purchase the bike that started it all for me and had missed the opportunity. Oh well, I hoped it had fallen into appreciative hands.

Now, it's 34 years later. I proudly own 15 Indians, including a '38 Four. Most of which were resurrected from far sorrier shape than the 441 started my love of Indian's in Leo's shop back in the early 70's.

Peter, my hat's off to you. You are the proud owner of the 441 that began my love affair with our fabled marquee. I'm impressed with the restoration you did on her. Take care of her, and if you ever decide to sell her, please let me have first dibbs.

"xxxx" Bob

*****See AOL's top rated recipes
(<http://food.aol.com/top-rated-recipes?NCID=aoltop00030000000004>)

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]